

ADDITIONAL SPECIES OF *SENECIO* SECTION
PALMATINERVII (ASTERACEAE) FROM
NORTHEASTERN MÉXICO

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ABSTRACT

Two new species of *Senecio*, *S. metepecus* and *S. nesomiorum*, belonging to the sect. *Palmatinervii*, are described, illustrated and compared to their nearest relatives.

KEY WORDS: *Senecio*, Asteraceae, systematics, México.

Ongoing botanical explorations of the geologically complex Sierra Madre Oriental of northeastern México have revealed two new species of *Senecio* belonging to the sect. *Palmatinervii* (Roldana, sensu Robinson & Brettell 1974), as circumscribed by Barkley (1985). *Senecio nesomiorum* is closely related to *S. marquezii* (Turner 1988), while *S. metepecus* is closely related to *S. platanifolius*.

Senecio metepecus B. Turner, sp. nov., Figure 1. TYPE: MÉXICO.

Hidalgo: Mpio. de Tenango de Doria, 18 km NNE of Metepec, "sobre camino de terraceria que va de Metepec a Tenango de Doria," forest of *Pinus leiophylla* and *Alnus*, 2200 m, 31 Oct 1977, Jose Garcia P. 514 (holotype TEX!; isotype CHAPA).

Senecio platanifolius Benth. similis sed capitulis radiatis et involucris et pedunculis ultimis pubescentibus trichomatibus multiseptatis purpurascens differt.

Perennial herbs 45-80 cm high. Stems simple, arising from slender rhizomes, purple, terete, moderately pubescent with purple-septate, crinkled trichomes. Leaves few (ca 4 to a stem), clustered near the base, reduced upwards; petioles (of lowermost leaves) 4-5 cm long, pubescent like the stems; blades broadly oval in outline, 7-8 cm wide, 6-7 cm long, 5-7 lobed, palmately veined from the base, moderately puberulent on both surfaces. Heads 11-15, radiate, broadly turbinate, arranged in a lax terminal, relatively naked, raceme. Involucres ca 12 mm high, the bracts ca 13 in 2 equal, overlapping

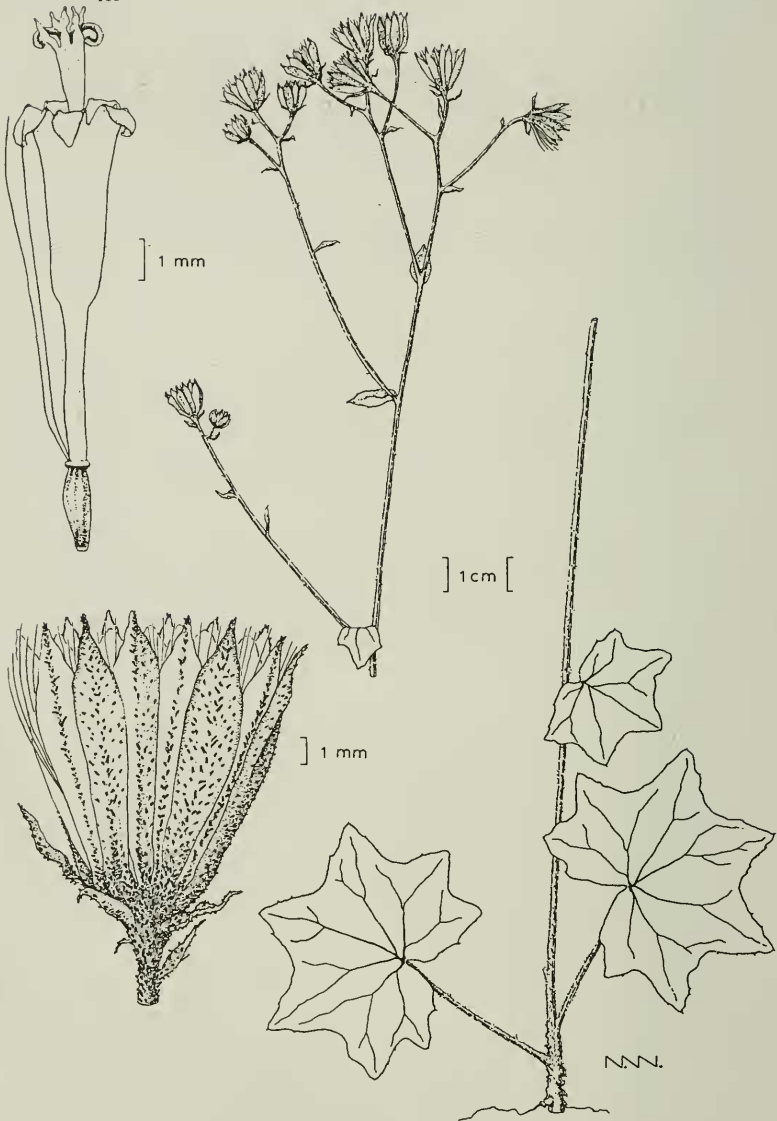


Fig 1 *SENECIO METEPECUS*, from holotype.

series, densely pubescent with short purple hairs, the margins scarios, especially those of the inner series. Disk florets 20-30; corollas yellow, glabrous, 10 mm long, the tube ca 4 mm long, the lobes ca 1.5 mm long. Achenes (immature) ca 3 mm long, glabrous, the pappus of numerous delicate, ciliate bristles ca 10 mm long.

The species resembles *Senecio platanifolius* Benth., but the leaves are fewer and largely restricted to the base of the plant, the capitulescence is relatively naked with much reduced leafy-bracts; in addition, the heads are eradiate and the ultimate peduncles and involucre are pubescent with purplish, multiseptate trichomes.

The collector's label describes the plant as an "herbacea anual, erecta, de 80 cm de alto," but the plant is clearly a rhizomatous perennial, the specimen on the holotype measuring ca 45 mm high.

Senecio nesomiorum B. Turner, sp. nov., Figure 2. TYPE: MÉXICO.

Nuevo Leon: Mpio. Doctor Arroyo, ca 35 mi NE of Doctor Arroyo, NE of San Antonio Peña Nevada, N side of Cerro Peña Nevada, along road ca 2 mi N of "El Puerto," scattered in an oak woodland in relatively level terrain (23°45' N, 99°52' W), 2650 m, 15 Sep 1988, *Guy Nesom 6712* [with Julia Wells] (holotype TEX!; isotype MEXU!).

Senecio marquezii B. Turner similis sed caulibus et foliis ubique brevipuberulis phyllariis minoribus non villosis, flosculis radii paucioribus (8-11 vs 13-21), et acheniis glabris differt.

Suffruticose perennial herbs to 1.8 m high. Stems terete, purplish, somewhat maculate, densely short puberulent to glabrate. Leaves (upper) alternate, ca 12 cm long, 8 cm wide; petiole ca 4 cm long; blades broadly flabellate, ca 6 cm long, 8 cm wide, 7-9 lobate, palmately nervate, truncate to subcordate at the base, puberulent beneath. Heads ca 35, radiate, arranged in a rather narrow, corymbose, panicle ca 30 cm long and 10 cm wide, the ultimate peduncles mostly 5-15 mm long. Capitulescence with pronounced obovate or subflabelliform bracts 3-6 cm long, 1-4 cm wide. Involucre campanulate, biseriate, ca 9 mm high, ca 15 mm wide, loosely invested by 2-4 foliaceous bracts 12-20 mm long, the bracts ca 11, ovate-elliptic, minutely puberulent, the apices acute. Ray florets 8-11, pistillate, fertile, the ligules yellow, 11-13 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, 3-5 nervate, the tube ca 6 mm long. Disk florets 50-70, the corollas glabrous, yellow, the tube ca 4 mm long, the throat ca 3 mm long, the lobes ca 1 mm long. Achenes (immature) glabrous, the pappus of numerous, white, barbellate bristles 7-8 mm long.

The species is closely related to the recently described *S. marquezii* B. Turner and *S. grimesii* B. Turner, possessing the rayed heads of the former and the glabrous achenes of the latter. All three species have large heads with relatively loose outer whorls of 2-4 foliaceous bracts which are somewhat longer than the subtended involucre bracts.

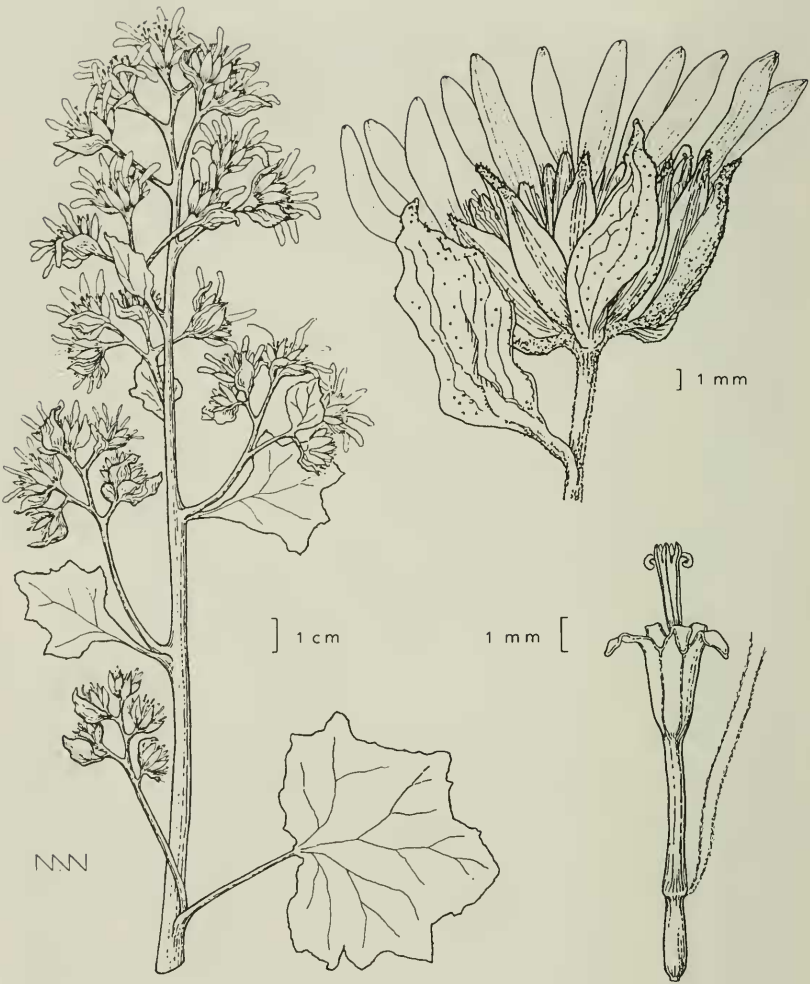


Fig 2. Senecio nesomiorum, from holotype

It is a pleasure to name this species for my colleague, Guy Nesom, and Julia Nesom (nee Wells), who were engaged at the time they collected the type material; they have since married and I take this opportunity to wish them a lifetime relationship.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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